questions are advanced. The arguments are prolonged. "*I* shall consider the case and give my decision as soon as possible/' says the Prince, and promptly forgets all about it! The records get dusty or even lost. If a decision is come to, it is generally "Appeal dismissed"! As to the sordid tales of bribery and corruption, it is best not to speak. Conditions are so unbearable that thousands of people migrate yearly into British India and foreign lands. The advice of successive Viceroys to read the signs of the times is ignored. The Princes believe that they are the bulwarks of imperialism and that they will be maintained.

If they claim to be independent sovereigns who gained their position by treaty, there can be no duty which can oblige the British to protect them from popular rebellion to depose them or to enforce non-autocratic government. Mr. Chudgar points out that treaties between a nation and an individual are unknown to international law. The Crown means the King in Parliament, and the Prince ought to, but does not, mean the ruler *and* his people in their representative character. There has never been any canvassing of the wishes of the states people. Were there a free plebiscite taken in many states, it would almost certainly be in favour of annexation and the pensioning off of the rulers. There is actually a long list of rulers who have been deposed without their subjects having expressed the slightest sympathy for them. The Federal Act of 1935 admits every absurd claim put forward by the Princes, and the constitution is framed so as to maintain them and their arbitrary and despotic form of government, yet many of them are holding back from federation. They feel, that they are between Scylla and Charybdis; if they join the federation, they <u>think</u> that, sooner or later, they will have to surrender their power by the force of public opinion and the pressure of popular government in the rest of India; if they do not